

Fibershed Annual Report 2024



WHO WE ARE

Fibershed is a non-profit organization developing regional fiber systems that expand opportunities to implement Climate Beneficial™ agriculture, rebuild regional manufacturing, and educate the public about the benefits of soil-to-soil fiber and dye systems.



Fibershed drives investment in climate benefiting agriculture, delivers technical support for rebuilding regional manufacturing, and links end-users to material sources through experiential skill-sharing education. It also provides expert guidance in soil-to-soil fiber systems to policymakers across regional, state, and federal levels.





Fast fashion increases environmental strain, as **synthetic fiber production (mainly polyester) has doubled in a decade**, leading to more emissions and landfill waste.

MCKINSEY & COMPANY



Synthetic fiber use has surged, making polyester the most popular fabric used in fabric production, surpassing cotton. **Polyester is made from fossil fuels and emits significantly more carbon**; a single t-shirt producing 5.5 kg CO₂e, compared to 2.1 kg for cotton.

NIINIMÄKI ET AL., 2020; KIRCHAIN ET AL., 2015



Only 2% of garment workers earn a living wage. **75% of fashion companies do not pay workers a living wage.**

WORLDMETRICS.INFO



Despite its scale, **fashion faces a \$500 billion annual loss due to low recycling rates and unsold clothing going to landfills**, impacting both economic value and sustainability.

MCKINSEY & COMPANY



Due to lengthy supply chains and energy-intensive production methods, **apparel and footwear industries generate 8–10% of global carbon emissions**, superseding emissions from the aviation and shipping industries combined.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, 2021



Rayon, viscose, and modal – semi-synthetic fibers made from wood pulp – are expected to grow in demand, intensifying global forest threats. Approximately **30% of the materials used in fashion come from ancient and endangered forests**.

MCCULLOUGH, 2014; MORDOR INTELLIGENCE, 2021



The fashion industry is key for economic development: it is valued at USD \$2.4B globally and directly employs 75 million people throughout its value chain. It is the world's third-largest manufacturing sector after the automobile and technology industries.

WORLD BANK GROUP



Without significant change, **the industry's emissions could increase by over 50% by 2030**, making sustainability innovations essential for climate impact reduction.

FRONTIER

A LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

This letter tends to be written just as the salmon are spawning and the rain begins to soak the earth following a season of absolute dryness. The symmetry between these delicate and tenacious migrations and the unpredictability of the rainy season illuminates the importance of working in this precious space of land regeneration. While creating a system of material culture production that gives more than it takes; the work, the migrations, and the seasons bring unimaginably generative beauty and vulnerability.

The level of organizing, coordinating, measuring, modeling, planting, seeding, harvesting, teaching, writing, presenting, and compost making climbed to new heights this year. We developed federal, state, and county climate-focused contracts that enable farm- and ranch-level restoration in four regions of the United States.

We created a new brand facing framework that measures biodiversity, hydrologic function, and carbon sequestration. We composted 300 pounds of textile waste and have even larger scale systems on the horizon. At Fibershed, we're stitching private and public sectors and investments into cohesion at the ground level to create measurable ecological outcomes that are vitally needed at this time.

Imbued with gratitude and grace, we share our work and thank you all for the opportunity to do it.



Rebecca Burgess

Rebecca Burgess
Executive Director

The Fibershed Movement *p. 10*

Our Priorities:

Regional Textile Economies *p. 18*

Climate Beneficial™ Agriculture *p. 24*

Advocacy *p. 32*

Education *p. 36*

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Thank You *p. 42*

Support Our Work *p. 43*

The Global Fibershed Movement

Global collaboration among fibersheds – on issues vital to regional textile ecosystems and rural economic development – unlocks untapped potential for economic innovation, environmental enhancement, and social equity.

Strengthening Rural Economies through Regional Value Networks: Fibershed Affiliates advocate, design, and build systems to revive their regional textile industry clusters focused on fiber cultivation through to finished products. These networks create local livelihoods and ensure that future generations can access time-honored skills essential to advancing natural material innovation. Strengthening these interconnected regional systems fosters self-reliant economies that, together, create durable and adaptable global soil-to-soil systems.

➤ Affiliate Group Growth

The Northern California Fibershed began in 2011 when Rebecca Burgess undertook a personal project to wear clothing made entirely from fibers, dyes, and labor sourced within 150 miles of her home in North Central California. This initiative led to the formation of the Northern California & Central Coast Producer Network – a community of farmers, ranchers, and artisans – which laid the groundwork for a regional textile economy focused on sustainability and local resources.

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	➤ Northern California & Central Coast Fibershed started		➤ By 2013, the concept had inspired the formation of additional regional Fibershed Affiliates, expanding the network beyond its original location.			➤ 28 fibersheds started



The growth of Fibershed Affiliate groups across the world correlates directly to the infusion of funding for the program; when we can offer financial support to Affiliate projects, the local groups thrive.



79

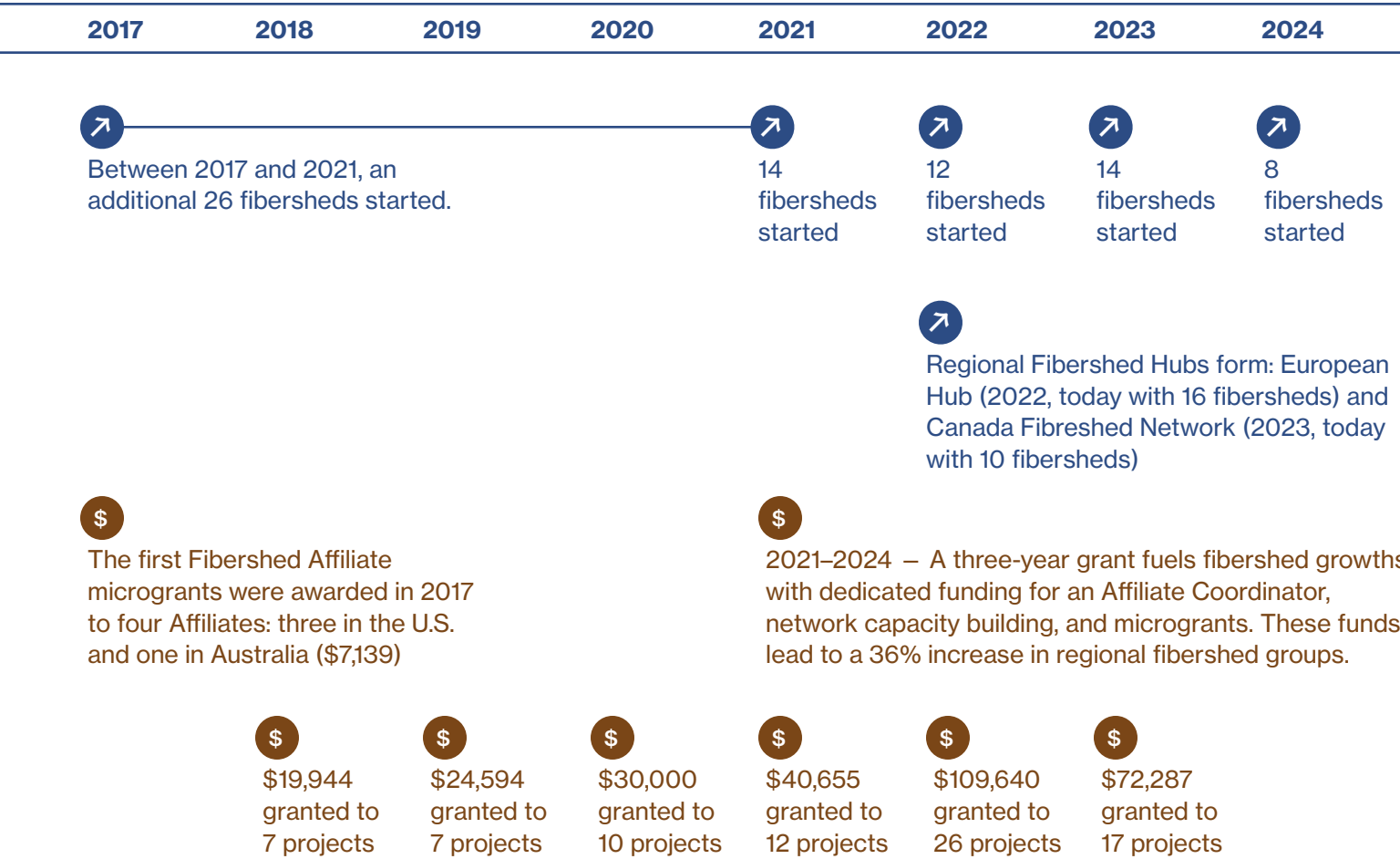
Today there are 79 fibersheds, active in 18 countries and on four continents.

Enhancing Ecosystems and Climate Action: Fibersheds operate autonomously while collaborating across bioregions to drive advocacy and share expertise on climate-smart agriculture, fiber processing innovations, and strategies to engage and educate the public on the climate advantages of soil-to-soil fiber and dye practices. Together, they model how to build climate beneficial economies through practical, place-based solutions.

Building Biocircular and Ethical Textile Futures: Global collaboration among fibersheds has advanced soil-to-soil fiber and dye systems, shaping circular bioeconomy standards. Together, we advocate for extended producer responsibility laws to eliminate waste, plastic textiles, and greenhouse gas-intensive models. This collective influence transforms agriculture into a carbon sink, decentralizes economic benefits, and reduces the cultural and environmental harm of offshored textile waste.

\$ Funding Grants

Microgrant seed funds to eligible fibersheds – projects range from organizational capacity and development, regional research and feasibility studies, and regional projects addressing key issues for local fibersheds.



Affiliate Highlights

Learn more about the important work being done by Fibershed Affiliates in 2024 – throughout the U.S. and internationally.

IMAGES Courtesy of regional fibersheds. Michigan Fibershed photo by Amanda Maurmann



Pennsylvania

“The impact of our clothing goes far beyond the closet – it affects soil, water, oceans, and even our food. By reducing consumption, choosing sustainable fibers, and supporting circular brands, we can protect the planet and our health. Pennsylvania Fibershed is building a thriving, equitable textile economy that values community, preserves generational knowledge, and supports soil health. Through education, advocacy, and hands-on programming, we’re shaping a future where Pennsylvania’s textile industry thrives in harmony with nature, benefiting both people and the planet.”

LESLIE DAVIDSON, PA FIBERSHED

Canada

“The textile system has taken a step backward. 150 years ago, we grew and processed 90% of our clothes locally; now it’s less than 2%. We’ve lost the skills and infrastructure we once had, and now face microplastics in clothing that take hundreds of years to break down. While agriculture has embraced traceability and local sourcing for food, we haven’t made that leap for clothing. I’m starting that conversation with our sheep and the mill, hoping to spark a revolution in how we produce, use, and dispose of our clothes.”

ANNA HUNTER, PEMBINA FIBRESHED (CANADA)



Michigan

"Michigan Fibershed connects people, materials, and land, while fostering collaboration and understanding of our regional ecosystem. We host workshops, statewide fiber events, and advocate for sustainable fiber systems. This year, we advanced our Flax-to-Linen Community Grow Project, developed flax processing tools for community use, and partnered with University of Michigan researchers on the "State of the Michigan Fibershed" assessment. Community engagement included talks and flax processing demonstrations, strengthening connections to local fiber traditions."

MELISSA DUHAIME, MITCH FEHRLE, ANGIE MARTIN
MICHIGAN FIBERSHED



SE & SW England

"South East and South West England Fibresheds bring designers to farms for hands-on learning about ecosystems and wool production, revaluing British wool and strengthening regional fibre systems. This year, we launched the Farming Fashion: Wool Guide at the Oxford Real Farming Conference, funded by Farming the Future, fostering designer-farmer dialogue. Collaborating with London College of Fashion, Future Fashion Landscapes explores sheep's role in restoring biodiversity and creating narratives to revalue native and rare breed fleece."

DEBORAH BARKER, SE ENGLAND FIBRESHED
EMMA HAGUE, SW ENGLAND FIBRESHED

Southern California

"Since 2019, Southern California Fibershed has fostered relationship-driven regional fiber systems, connecting textile artists, designers, farmers, mills, and sellers to revitalize the local fiber economy. In 2024, we launched a regional fiber pool, showcased local fibers at the LA Textile trade show, organized online discussions and natural dye meet-ups, and supported producers with field trips and shearing assistance. We continue seeking innovative ways to develop local infrastructure and highlight the value of thriving regional textile and fiber communities."

LESLEY ROBERTS, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FIBERSHED



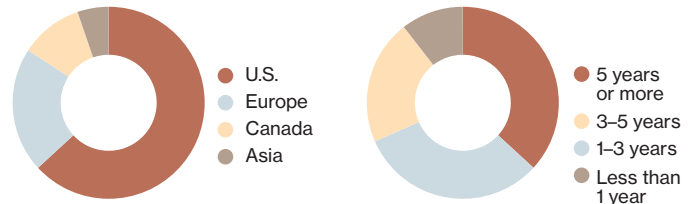
2024 Fibershed Affiliate Census

The first global Fibershed Affiliate census is a vital step in understanding and strengthening the movement. It aims to provide a clearer picture of Affiliates' organizational structures, challenges, and shared goals of fostering collaboration and guiding strategic growth. We hope that the census will help identify opportunities, address gaps, and allocate resources to establish a strong foundation for the network's future.

KEY INSIGHTS FROM THE AFFILIATE CENSUS SURVEY

Participation

Nineteen Fibersheds responded from four global areas, representing about 25% of the Affiliate Network. Of the respondents, 37% have been in operation for more than five years, and 51% have been operating for more than three years.



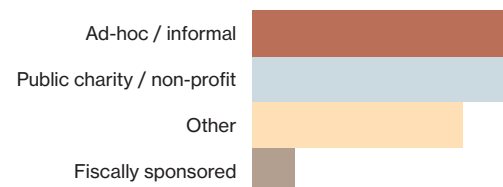
Shared Priorities

About two-thirds of Affiliates prioritize small business and economic development, with nearly all focusing on community outreach and public education. Agriculture, farmer, and rancher support, along with mapping their regional fiber ecosystem, tied as the third-most common priorities. Additionally, just under half of the Affiliates are engaged in major projects or research partnerships with local universities.



Organizational Structure and Funding

Fewer than one-third of Fibersheds are official non-profits, while an equal number operate with ad-hoc organizational structures. Two-thirds have formal boards, just under half generate revenue through earned income, more than half rely on grant funding, and one-third receive funding through membership dues.



Collaboration Opportunities

All respondents expressed interest in developing regional textile ecosystem maps, with many seeking opportunities for cross-region collaboration, regular contact, and mentorship within the Fibershed network. Many Affiliate organizers possess the professional skills and academic training necessary to lead regional and pan-regional projects.

How can Fibershed better support regional affiliates?

“Facilitate intensive, goal-oriented collaboration and information sharing to solve shared challenges like creating appropriate bast fiber equipment and saving small wool mills.” CENSUS RESPONDENT

Shared Needs and Challenges

The majority of Fibersheds identified building organizational capacity as their top need. A lack of steady volunteers and people power during the startup phase was highlighted as an equally significant challenge. Nearly all Affiliates also cited a critical gap in fiber milling and processing infrastructure as a major barrier to developing their regional textile economies.

“Transforming from a volunteer side project focused on community building and ad hoc capacity building into a substantial organization that pursues funding (whether as a nonprofit or another structure) requires a more substantial commitment of time and resources.” CENSUS RESPONDENT

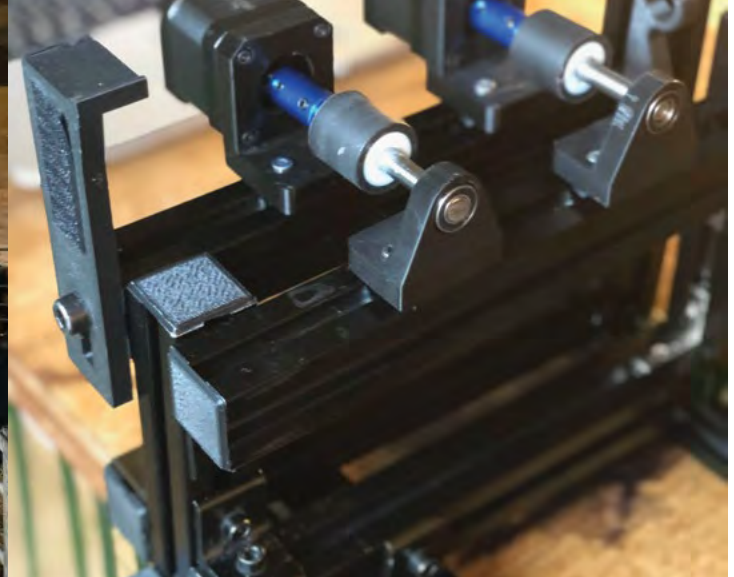
Affiliate Projects 2024

Fibershed Affiliates form the backbone of the global Fibershed movement. This grassroots network of 79 fibersheds drives the development of regional fiber systems, fosters education, and supports economic growth by building relationships and connections.

The Fibershed Micro-Grant Program awards up to \$4,500 per project, enabling affiliates to advance research, prototype innovations, host educational initiatives, and develop resources. Since 2017, the program has funded over 83 projects and distributed more than \$231,000.



Milling Projects



Dansk Fibershed

Northern New England Fibershed

Bast Fiber Processing in Northern New England

Funding for the feasibility study supported Northern New England Fibershed's exploration into establishing a bast fiber processing mill in Northern New England, where interest in natural fibers like hemp and flax is growing. They surveyed potential growers and consumers, interviewed bast fiber experts, and formed a regional Bast Fiber Community group. To engage and educate, they published newsletters, a zine, and a hemp licensing guide, along with resources like a bast fiber flier and a hemp licensing webpage. This project established foundational knowledge, identifying both interest and challenges in bast fiber processing. While a mill will require additional work and funding, survey results indicate growing demand, suggesting potential for natural fiber production infrastructure in the region.

Dansk Fibershed

Mobile Micro Spinning Mill Project

Dansk Fibershed is advancing environmentally responsible fiber processing with the Mobile Micro Spinning Mill project, launched in 2023 and set for completion in 2025. Insights from this project have been shared at events like Fiberfolk 2023 and Festival Vinterstrik 2024, with additional details available online and in *Gavstrik* magazine. This three-phase project includes training on the open-source HILO spinning machine, developed by Berlin-based Studio HILO, which allows users to create custom yarns from local and recycled fibers, supporting small-scale, environmentally responsible production. It also involves research on Spelsau wool, producing data sheets that address challenges in adapting raw wool for machinery designed for industrial rovings. The mobile mill empowers local producers, reduces environmental impact, and strengthens resilience and environmentally responsible practices within the Danish fiber community.

Central Appalachia Fibershed & Acadiana Fibershed

Advancing Open Source Technologies for Small Fiber Producers in Central Appalachia

Microgrant funds supported the project titled Evaluating Value Added Potential for Small Fiber Producers in Central Appalachia, creating open-source micro mill equipment based on the HILO spinning machine. This technology enables small producers to make custom yarns from local and recycled fibers using integrated software. The project strengthens regional supply chains, reduces reliance on external facilities, and increases profits for producers. In collaboration with Scotland Fibershed, industrial experts, West Virginia University (WVU), and an Ohio startup, the equipment is incorporated into wool training and regional programs. Open-source guides will be shared on GitHub to expand global access, with WVU's USDA Federal State Marketing Improvement Program grant and Farm to Fashion coursework supporting hands-on training.



Fibershed Sri Lanka

Fibershed Sri Lanka Rural to Urban: Expanding Market Opportunities for Local Fiber Products

Fibershed Sri Lanka received funding to expand market opportunities for local fiber products, achieving notable strides in environmentally responsible textile production. Their initiatives fostered innovation, certified new producers, and advanced Phase 3 of the Regenerative Cotton pilot, as they partnered with notable brands like Ananas Anam (#MadeFromPiñatex) and the UK-based MYGroup.

Waste-to-Value projects grew to include repurposing for leather off-cuts and plastic, while a website relaunch extended global reach. Workshops provided artisans with training for materials like leather off-cuts and Piñatex, addressing challenges in dye testing and quality control.

These projects strengthened local engagement, empowered female artisans, and promoted conservation through regenerative cotton and waste recycling. Resources like the natural dye toolkit and material templates also serve as models for environmentally responsible textiles across the Fibershed network.

Chesapeake Fibershed Centralized Marketing Exchange & Fiber Community Website

Funding for the expansion of the Chesapeake Fibershed website allowed them to enhance data management, member engagement, and resource accessibility through a transition to the Little Green Light (LGL) database. Key improvements included migrating data from Google files, integrating Mailchimp for communications, and configuring the Directories Pro app for an optimized website directory. Pending tasks include transitioning to Stripe and initiating a membership drive. A web professional with agricultural expertise was hired to support these efforts. The new directory will enable producers, makers, and fiber enthusiasts to easily access resources, strengthening the regional fiber network and advancing our mission. The database also improves board access, supports compliance, and enhances membership tracking and engagement, fostering connections across the Chesapeake Fibershed.

New York Textile Lab / New York Fibershed Fibershed Textile Collab Application

The 2023–2024 microgrant funds advanced New York Fibershed's project by supporting Phase 2 of the digital app for coordinating textile production from raw fiber to finished goods. This phase emphasizes seasonal planning and production alignment, enhancing collaboration between designers and farmers. The app now allows designers to coordinate with farmers across stages from spinning to weaving, with beta testing planned with the Carbon Farm Network Cooperative in 2025. Addressing critical gaps in regional textile supply chains, where small-scale Fibersheds face challenges in scaling, the app fosters cooperation, transparency, and trust. It supports distributed economic models prioritizing carbon farming, biodiversity, and localism. Initially centered on the NY Fibershed and the Carbon Farm Network Cooperative, the app is poised to scale, offering all Fibershed affiliates a digital tool to strengthen biocircular textile ecosystems.



Sharing Knowledge

Rustbelt Fibershed Student Ambassador Program

Microgrant funding supported the Rust Belt Fibershed Student Ambassador Program's second year, engaging students in sustainable fiber systems through field experiences, events, and partnerships. Bi-weekly meetings, a clothing swap, and Earth Day tabling promoted sustainable fashion, while field trips to designers, farms, and textile operations provided hands-on learning and strengthened industry ties. This project established a replicable model for student engagement. Field visits enhanced connections with designers, manufacturers, and farmers, advancing the Rust Belt Fibershed's mission. The program now includes students at Ohio State, Ohio University, and WVU via Zoom. Stronger ties with Kent State's Fashion, Architecture, and Agriculture Schools have led to grant applications, a planned indigo project, and collaborations with local partners like the farmers market and garden clubs.

Fibreshed Ireland Reciprocal Textiles Knowledge-Sharing Website

Funding for Fibreshed Ireland's knowledge-sharing website project created resources to support farmers in environmentally responsible

practices within their Fibreshed. An interactive lesson and PDF on water catchment restoration, expert presentations by Alan Keys and Kim Biegler, and a farm profile template provide actionable guidance and community connection. This storytelling approach enhances transparency and insight into farm practices. Additionally, a regenerative farming resource list and adaptable profile template were published for wider use. This project strengthens Fibreshed Ireland's communication of their mission, with the interactive lesson serving as a model for future biodiversity and habitat restoration modules, helping to foster a resilient network that shares environmentally responsible practices.

European Union Fibershed Connecting 16 Regional Fibersheds for Biocircular Textiles

Microgrant funds were used to establish the European Union Fibershed website as a central platform uniting 16 regional affiliates to enhance collaboration and promote a regenerative textile economy across Europe. By centralizing resources, best practices, and event information, it strengthens communication and knowledge-sharing among affiliates,

allowing each region to benefit from shared experiences and innovations. The platform's accessibility reaches both local and broader audiences, raising awareness of biocircular textile practices and building a connected network dedicated to ecological and social resilience in the textile industry.

Southern California Fibershed Building Robust Networks

Funding supported the expansion of Fiber Pool 2.0 in the Southern California Fibershed's network through partnerships with a cashmere goat ranch and artisan brands for wool and wool-cashmere blends. Ranch visits secured fibers which were partially processed at Mountain Meadow. A wool pelletizer project was developed to manage waste wool. Monthly meetups on topics like policy and fundraising fostered collaboration, while participation in the LA Textile Show opened opportunities for artisan yarn partnerships. This project highlighted the need to focus on supporting producers and economic opportunities, reinforcing Southern California Fibershed's role as connectors in the fiber pool. Key lessons in goal-setting, adaptability, and timely pivots will guide their long-term success.

Regional Textile Economies

The Regional Textile Economies program focuses on three strategies: building and promoting a strong and connected producer network, assessing and developing regional manufacturing capacity, and supporting the movement of Climate Beneficial™ natural fibers and dyes through a soil-to-soil process. We start with farms, mills, and wearers, and eventually renew the cycle by returning materials to the soil from which they came.

We develop regional fiber systems and manufacturing networks that catalyze local economies through our Affiliate network and grant-funded project partnerships.



REGIONS SERVED

*North America, Europe, Asia,
South America, Oceania*



POPULATIONS SERVED

*Underrepresented populations, Farmers,
Artists-Designers, Small businesses,
Women, Veterans, Rural communities*





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Roots of Stewardship: Modern Shepherd

Prescriptive grazing is creating new opportunities for skilled shepherds. By using livestock to reduce wildfire risks, prescriptive grazing is gaining traction. In California, Senate Bill 675 (SB 675) passed with informed advocacy from Fibershed and many incredible contract graziers in our community. Funds for prescribed grazing for wildfire prevention will now be available to support scaling this work in our state.

Fibershed partners on curriculum development, provides financial assistance, and fiscal sponsorship to grazing-focused vocational training programs that provide foundational and advanced skills for those currently working in or desiring to work in this sector. In 2024, 54 students attended shearing schools hosted by the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) and the UC Hopland Research & Extension Center (HREC). Fibershed funded scholarships and equity pricing for about half of the students, who traveled from across the U.S. to participate. “Without Fibershed’s support, only a small fraction of our students could attend. This support has made greater access to this work possible,” said Hannah Bird, HREC’s Community Educator.

Kaos Sheep Outfit launched its Live Lambing and Delivery Class, a bilingual, hands-on training program that teaches lambing assistance, ewe care, and lamb health management. The class provides participants with real-time experience addressing common lambing challenges. Fibershed funded scholarships for three female shepherds to attend. The Kaos team expressed their gratitude, saying, “The amount of support you’ve given us over the years has been uncompromising, and we can’t appreciate it enough. Thank you! You all run an amazing program!”

The Grazing School of the West and New Cowgirl Camp organized a five-day graziers camp at Truegrass Farm, where participants learned holistic grazing management. Fibershed funded partial scholarships for the majority of attendees, giving 18 individuals hands-on experience in stockmanship and Climate Beneficial™ wool production.



TOP Student at HREC shearing school in Hopland, California

BOTTOM LEFT Instructors and farm hosts, Grazing School of the West grazier camp at True Grass Farm in Tomales, California

BOTTOM RIGHT Students at HREC shearing school in Hopland, California

Regional Textile Economies



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Partnerships Building Economic & Environmental Equity

BLACK FIBER & TEXTILE NETWORK (bftn)

black fiber & textile network (bftn) supports the livelihoods and lifeways of Black people across the globe who use, produce, and work with: regenerative fibers, plant dyes, and sustainable or artisanal textiles. In 2024, the bftn launched their Member Map, a resource designed to globally connect and cross-pollinate with Black individuals who use, produce, and work with regenerative fibers, plant dyes, and sustainable or artisanal textiles. In one collaboration, two members – dièdiè textile farm & mill and Seed2Shirt – worked together to dye Seed2Shirt’s new cotton yarn with marigolds grown on S2S’s pilot farm in Whitakers, NC. This new yarn is made from 100% cotton cultivated by Black farmers in Seed2Shirt’s cotton collective.

FIBERS FUND

Fibershed and the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Funders established the Integrated Capital Fibers Fund to facilitate the investment of financial capital to U.S. based natural fiber and dye based industries. Fibershed provides ongoing support to the fund via the Advisory Council. In 2024 the fund formed an independent 501(c)(3) organization, Fibers Collective, which has finalized the structure needed to advance strategic low-interest loans, with plans to begin issuing these loans in early 2025.

LEFT: Adé of dièdiè textile farm & mill, dyeing Seed2Shirt 100% cotton grown by Black Farmers, with marigold. Source: Black Fiber Futures, [instagram.com/blackfiberfutures](https://www.instagram.com/blackfiberfutures)

FIBERS FUND – ACCUMULATIVE DATA SINCE 2023

The Fibers Fund has raised

\$2M

\$1M in grants
for outgoing Technical Assistance grants
and operating support

\$1M in notes
committed and approved

The Fibers Fund has supported

12 businesses

across

7 states

Since 2023, the Fibers Fund has awarded technical assistance grants to some key natural fiber innovators:

PA Flax Project – A woman-led cooperative reviving organic fiber flax in the Eastern U.S.

Cindy Castro New York – A Latina-owned sustainable apparel brand advancing fair labor and domestic fabric sourcing.

dièdiè textile farm & studio – A North Carolina studio offering low-carbon cellulose fibers and natural dyes.

Winona's Hemp and the Annishinaabe Agricultural Institute – Building a bioregional hemp economy rooted in Indigenous values.

Seed2Shirt – A Black woman-owned apparel company reclaiming Afro-Indigenous cotton-to-textile heritage.

Pergamena – A 470-year-old vegetable-tannin-based tannery in New York producing traceable leather.

Through this capital strategy, the Fibers Fund aligns financial tools with each business's needs, fostering sustainable growth and resilience in the fiber industry.



TOP PA Flax Project Flax harvest at Kneehigh Farm. Source: paflaxproject.com

BOTTOM Cindy Castro New York. Source: cindycastro.com

Fibers Fund has
deployed
\$325,000
in business Technical
Assistance grants

72% of dollars
went to People of the Global
Majority-led businesses

80% of dollars
went to women-led and non-binary-
led businesses

Regional Textile Economies



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Evolution of the Fibershed Producer Network

The 183 member Northern & Central California Producer Network was founded and has been organized and managed by Fibershed.org for 10 years. The producer network and the non-profit organization have strengthened and grown over the decade.

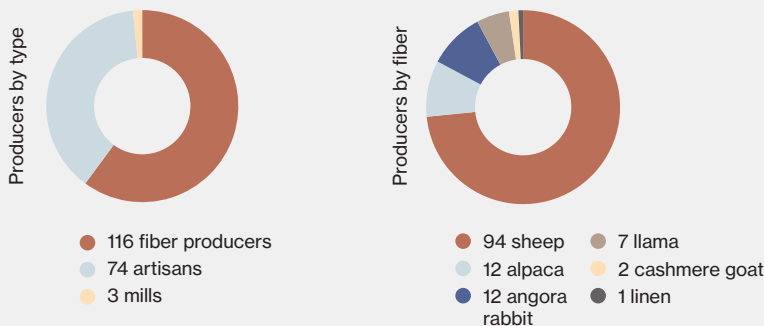
Starting in 2025, the non-profit will continue to manage administrative, fiscal, website, and promotion of the producer program. The producer community will generate and collaboratively implement all programs and projects that they see as key to enlivening connections and innovations between growers, designers, and makers. We are excited to open the program development of the producer program to the membership. To foster inclusive program development, a producer-led advisory group began developing a governance model in 2024, and over the next two years, the network will continue to define and democratically elect roles that will help guide regional priorities.

TOP Weaving demonstration at the 2023 Fibershed Symposium, held in Point Reyes Station

BOTTOM Northern California Producer Network members at the 2022 Fibershed Winter Market

NOR CAL PRODUCER NETWORK

183
total Northern California Producer Network Members



In 2024, we welcomed
8 new members
to our Northern California
Producer Network



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From Field to Fabric: Addressing Gaps in Local Fiber Systems

The decline of U.S. textile mills, driven by offshoring instigated by trade policies, highlights historical inequities and the need for change. In response, a movement to localize fiber production and adopt climate-smart agricultural practices is growing. Regional mills, once vital community hubs, are being more clearly understood as cornerstones of the new circular bioeconomy.

The fibershed community continues to develop the required analysis, business plans, and entrepreneurial spirit to revitalize our milling infrastructure in a manner that bridges traditional crafts and industrial systems. In 2023 and 2024, more than \$72,000 in microgrants was awarded to regional fibershed projects that address gaps in building resilient, regional fiber systems, ranging from expanding markets and facilitating connections between fiber producers and the community to creating awareness and engagement around environmentally responsible practices. Fibershed affiliates made a notable impact at the 2024 New York State Sheep and Wool Festival (Oct. 19–20, Rhinebeck, NY). Representatives from over ten states presented an exhibition featuring talks and demonstrations promoting sustainable fiber systems.

TOP Fibreshed producer member Graham Rannie skirting and classing Rambouillet wool during a Pembina Fibreshed wool handling workshop on his farm in Russel, Manitoba, Canada

BOTTOM Representatives from Seed2Shirt, Southeast New England Fibreshed Affiliate, and the New York Textile Lab come together at the New York State Sheep and Wool Festival. Photo courtesy Amy DuFault



INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATE NETWORK SUPPORT

In 2024, we organized
12 virtual monthly meetups
attended by approximately
144 Affiliate Network members

We sent
15 email newsletters
with news, opportunities,
and resources specifically
for Affiliates

In 2024, we facilitated
4 Working Groups
Policy
Education
New Economic Models
Bast Fiber

Climate Beneficial™ Agriculture

The Climate Beneficial™ Agriculture Program develops natural fiber and dye production systems that contribute to the stabilization of our climate. Fibershed works directly with land stewards to research and demonstrate agroecological practices and produce peer-to-peer educational events. We organize funding streams to support land management practices that naturally build soil carbon, improve ecosystem health, and increase on-farm productivity.



REGIONS SERVED

USA



POPULATIONS SERVED

*Underrepresented populations,
Farmers, Small businesses, Women,
Veterans, Rural communities*





Climate Beneficial™ Concept

Climate Beneficial™ Agriculture improves ecosystem function of farming and ranching systems. Since 2015, Fibershed's Climate-Beneficial (CB) Program, developed with the Carbon Cycle Institute, has prioritized a practice based approach that prioritizes outcomes-based metrics. With USDA funding, Fibershed has expanded partnerships and created a Monitoring, Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MMRV) framework to track impacts on climate, water, biodiversity, and soil health.

Fibershed's Climate Beneficial™ Program is distinct for its regionally led, bioregion-specific approach, prioritizing local leadership and environmental adaptation. Unlike standardized programs, this model is tailored to each region's unique ecological, cultural, and agricultural conditions. Local fiber producers design practices suited to their soil types, climate, and biodiversity needs. By integrating local knowledge and strengthening regional markets, the program supports environmental and economic goals while fostering resilient, climate-positive fiber production.

TOP Sophia Bates and the Navarro Vineyards / Pennyroyal Farm flock heading out to work among the grape vines

BOTTOM LEFT Climate Beneficial™ Cotton Tour at Pedretti Ranches, El Nido, California

BOTTOM RIGHT The Navarro Vineyards / Pennyroyal Farm sheep, Anderson Valley, California

Climate Beneficial™ Agriculture



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CDFA Healthy Soils Block Grant

Fibershed was selected by the California Department of Food and Agriculture to manage a \$5 million Healthy Soils Program (HSP) Block Grant in a pilot program to more effectively support Climate Beneficial™ agriculture throughout the state. The Program advances soil health and reduces greenhouse gas emissions on California farms and ranches by giving financial incentives of up to \$200,000 for land management practices like hedgerows, silvopasture, compost, and cover cropping. The program also offers free technical assistance to applicants throughout the three year grant period. With an emphasis on equitable access, at least 25% of grant resources are allocated to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

In 2024, Fibershed enrolled 33 producers to implement 13 Climate Beneficial™ practices across 4,214 acres, distributing over \$2.75 million directly to producers and reducing CO₂ emissions by over 7,900 metric tons annually. Ecological benefits of these practices include enhanced biodiversity and increased soil health, which lead to decreased erosion, improved carbon storage, water retention, and overall ecosystem function.

CDFA HEALTHY SOILS BLOCK GRANT

33 producers

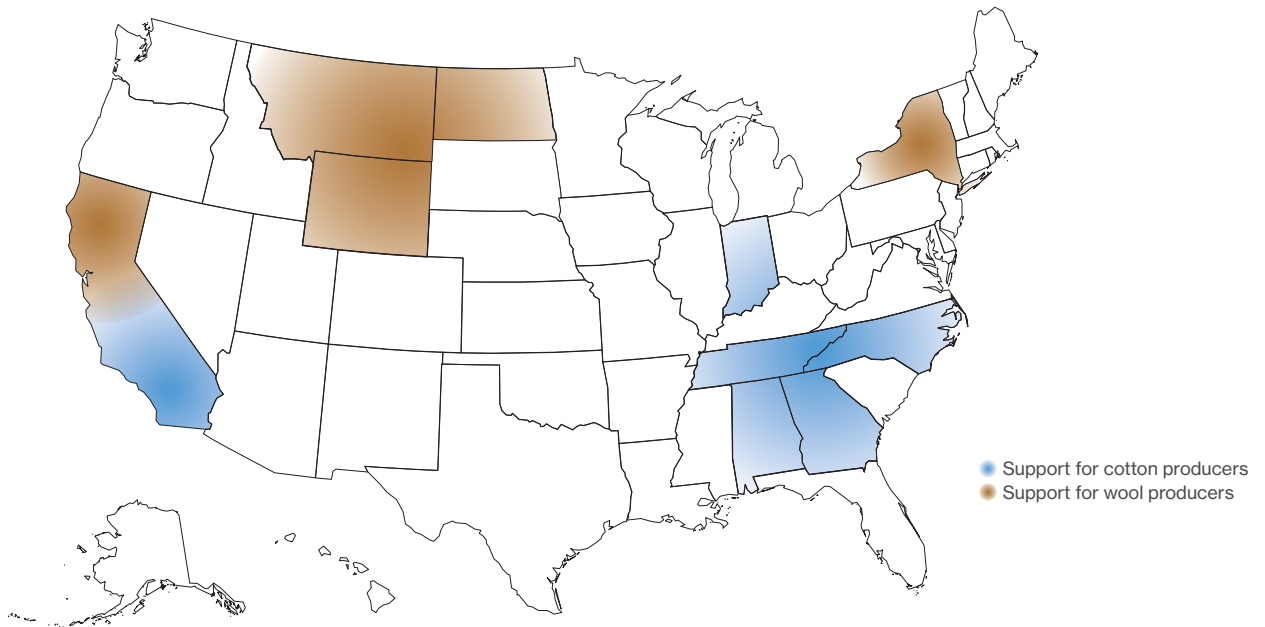
enrolled in the
program in 2024,

23 of which are considered
“socially disadvantaged”

4,214 acres
enrolled in California

\$2.75 million
distributed

to implement 13 Climate
Beneficial™ practices



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USDA Climate Smart Commodities Grant

Fibershed, alongside five partners – Seed2Shirt, NCAT, NY Textile Exchange, and CSU – secured a USDA Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities grant to broaden Climate Beneficial™ wool and cotton production across 100 farms spanning two million acres in nine states. The partnership supports Fibershed's Climate Beneficial™ Verified, market growth, and brand alliances for eco-friendly fibers. In the past year, Fibershed updated its program framework, monitoring criteria, and requirements, introducing new metrics for climate, water, biodiversity, and soil health impacts, currently piloted with cotton and set for wool growers in 2025.

The new framework development within Climate Beneficial™ Verified is designed to support growers in holistic landscape improvements through a contextualized rather than one-size-fits-all approach. These updates align with USDA standards and cost-share practices, enabling easier market access and funding. Wool growers in the program will continue under the previous criteria until late 2025, providing time for adaptation. This initiative supports USDA goals, advancing Fibershed's mission for measurable climate benefits, ecosystem resilience, and rural economic growth.

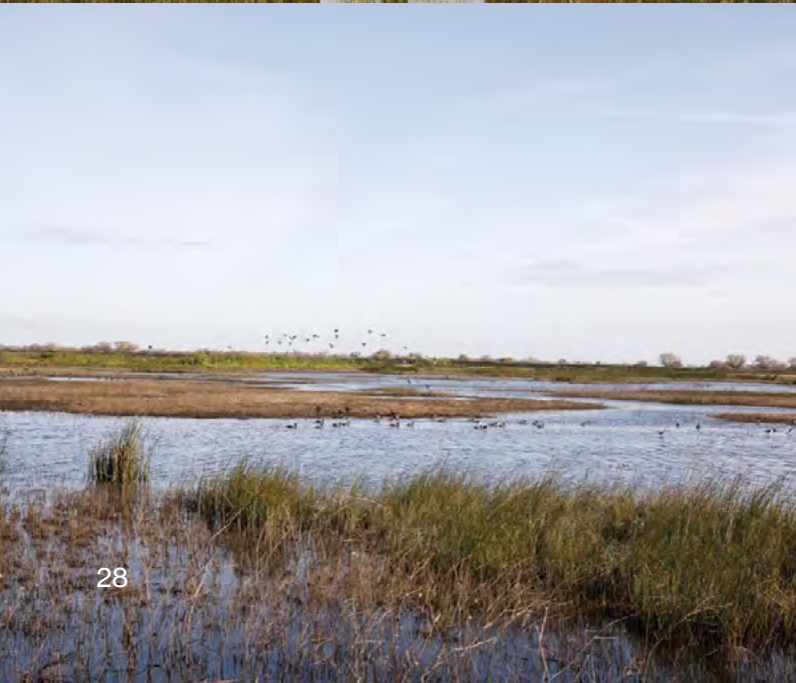
USDA CLIMATE SMART COMMODITIES GRANT

38 producers

enrolled in the
program in 2024

360,000 acres

collectively stewarded by program producers
across the U.S.



Climate Beneficial™

VERIFIED

The Climate Beneficial™ Program provides growers planning, funding and technical assistance to adopt practices that lead to improved soil health, carbon sequestration, biodiversity enhancement, watershed health, and community resilience. Through whole-farm planning, collaboration with CBV and regional Technical Assistance Providers (TAPs), growers select practices that maximize holistic impact, aligning with their unique landscapes.

Producers start with a Resilient Ranch Plan or Carbon Farm Plan, developed with guidance from the Carbon Cycle Institute and regional technical assistance providers to identify key opportunities for Climate Beneficial™ practices. Growers implement and monitor these practices, conducting annual soil tests and tracking greenhouse gas reductions with COMET planner and or localized peer reviewed data. The Climate Beneficial™ Verified team verifies outcomes and shares data with purchasing partners. Pricing in CBV ensures fair compensation, passing 100% of the premium directly to growers to sustain their practices.

The CBV Outcomes Framework was developed in 2024 to track a broad set of environmental and social outcomes across key impact areas, providing growers with a guided approach for achieving holistic, measurable results.

Holistic Outcomes Framework

Climate Beneficial™ Verified is designed to support growers to achieve a holistic suite of outcomes across environmental and social categories. In order to achieve this, practices are mapped against impact categories to guide the selection of practices, and outcome metrics are tracked across the impact categories. The following categories and associated goals are referred to as the CBV Outcomes Framework.

Soils	Soil health is improved	Chemical balance, Structural health, Biological health
	Soil carbon stock is increased	Carbon cycling, Microbial health
Watersheds	Water use efficiency is increased	Soil water cycling, Water consumption
	Water pollution is reduced	Eutrophication, Sedimentation
Ecosystem Health + Biodiversity	Biological diversity increased	Native plants, Crop diversity, Wildlife diversity, Insects / pollinators
	Habitat preservation improved	Habitat support features, Habitat preservation
Overall Ecosystem Health	Toxicity load is reduced	Herbicides, Pesticides / Insecticides, Fertilizers
	Reliance on fossil fuels reduced	Fossil fuel reliance (inputs), Fossil fuel reliance (energy / fuel)
	Other greenhouse gas emissions are reduced	Nitrogen emissions, Methane emissions

Healthier Ecosystems

Each practice is mapped against the CBV outcome categories in order to support growers in an implementation strategy that will allow them to achieve holistic outcomes. Compared to conventional cotton production in the region, Climate Beneficial™ achieves:

- 40% reduction in synthetic pesticides
- 72% improvement in soil organic carbon (measure of sequestration)
- 26% reduction in synthetic nitrogen (fertilizer)
- 739 acres of grower managed wetland habitat
- Full elimination of WHO 1a highly hazardous chemistry, glyphosate, & fungicides.

This data is based on CA farmer impact data from 2021–2023. Pesticide reductions are measured by the volume of active ingredients and include insecticides, generic pesticides, and herbicides. Conventional adjacent fields are used as a baseline except for SOC measurements which average SOC improvements from the same field pre-implementation (2 harvests) and adjacent conventional fields.

California Cotton LCA

The goal of the Climate Beneficial™ Verified California Cotton Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) is to quantify the absolute and relative environmental impacts of Climate Beneficial™ and conventional Cotton production.

Preliminary results of the LCA indicate that if carbon sequestration is successfully maintained, Climate Beneficial™ cotton achieves net negative emissions when accounting for soil carbon drawdown, with an approximate value of -1.56 kg CO₂ per kg of fiber, compared to conventional.

This comparative life cycle assessment, conducted in accordance with ISO 14044 and ISO 14067 standards, provides a holistic view of how various cotton production methods compare in terms of their overall environmental footprint.

2024	2025	2026
Develop and define CBV framework	Operationalizing new framework and initial pilot	Full adoption of CBV for new and historical producers

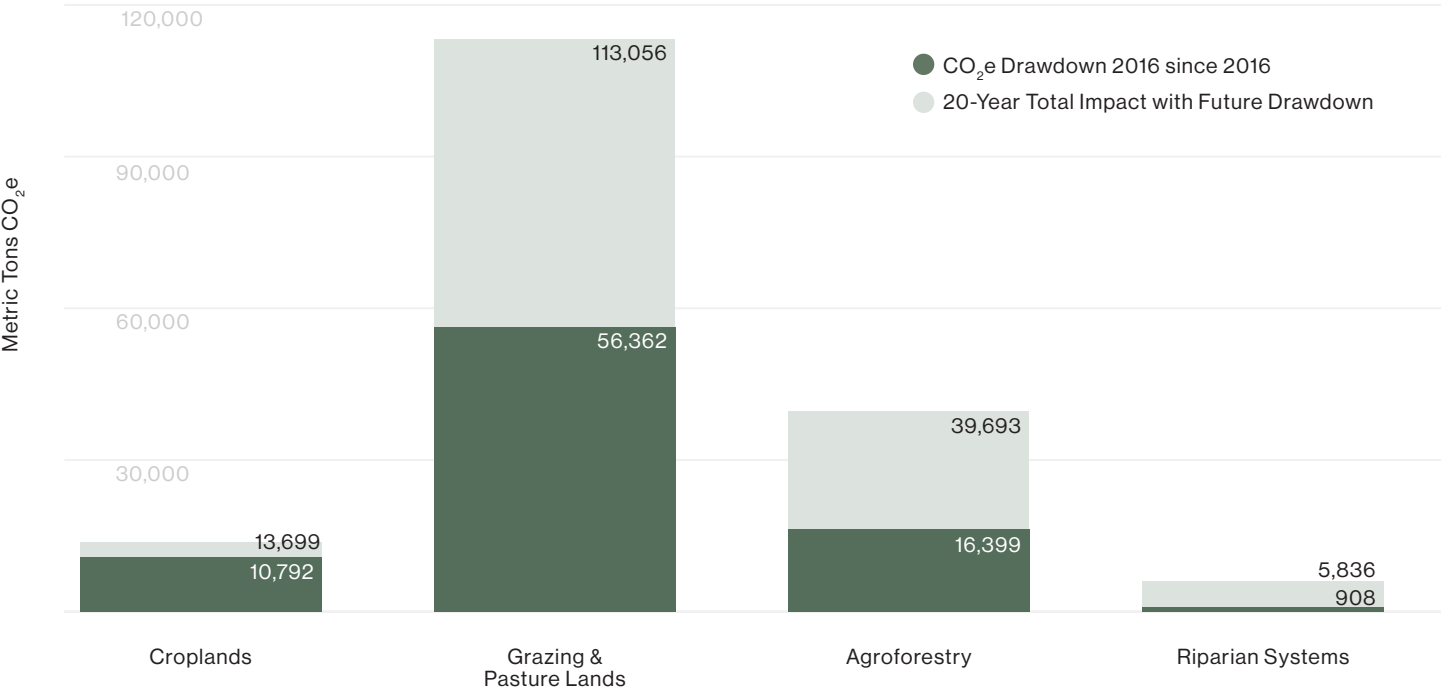
Carbon Farming Impact Report

In 2024, producers enrolled in the Climate Beneficial™ Program collectively implemented a total of **126 carbon farming practices**, accounting for an estimated **5,516 Mg of CO₂e sequestered** and **41,590 Mg CO₂e drawdown projected** over the next 20 years.

Prescribed grazing, compost application to rangelands, compost application to crop lands, and cover cropping were the most commonly implemented practices. Over the life of the Climate Beneficial™ Program since 2016, compost application on rangeland accounts for the largest amount of carbon drawdown, sequestering an estimated over 78,000 Mg CO₂e over the next 20 years.

Carbon Farming Practices, CO₂e Drawdown by Category

Cumulative since 2016 and Projected 20-Year Impact



“We are still scattering compost. We’ve found our hay yields and water holding improve significantly after one application. Thanks to Fibershed, we’ve added a hedgerow of native plants and silvopasture, white oaks on the permanent sheep field to provide sheep shade and acorns, which are a good food source for sheep. White oaks are supposed to be more resilient to sudden oak death. We hope to create a seed bank.”

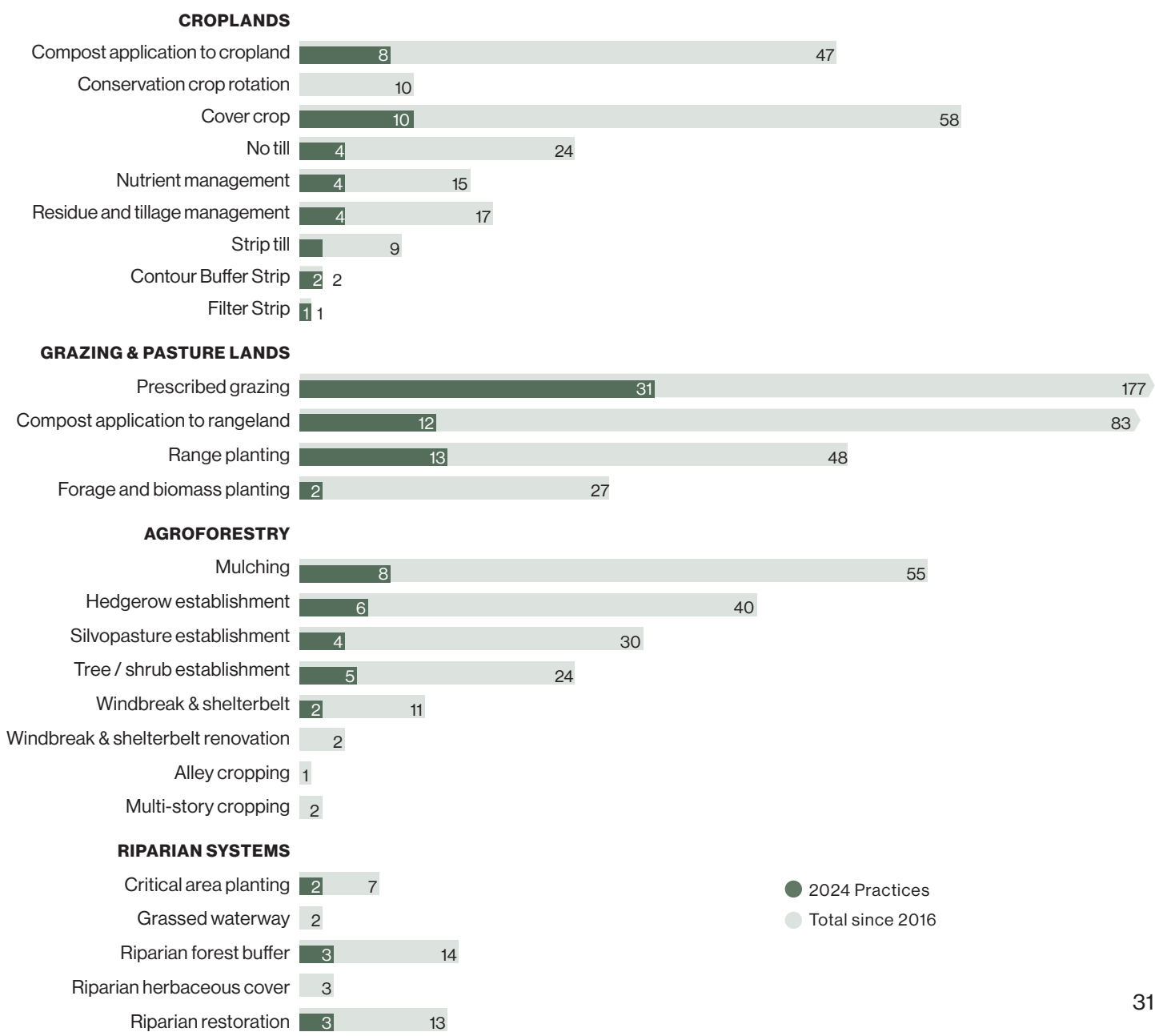
HAZEL FLETT, BODEGA PASTURES

Carbon sequestration estimations were calculated using COMET-Planner, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) COMET-Planner, COMET Farm, and data sourced from Rebecca Ryals and Whendee L. Silver, “Effects of organic matter amendments on net primary productivity and greenhouse gas emissions in annual grassland ecosystems,” Ecological Applications 23 (2013): 46–59, <https://doi.org/10.1890/12-0620.1>.

Practices implemented	Acres enrolled	Estimated CO ₂ e drawdown
2024 126	2024 17,364	2024 5,516 Mg CO ₂ e over the next 20 years
SINCE 2016 724	SINCE 2016 180,000+	SINCE 2016 170,000 Mg CO ₂ e over the next 20 years

Carbon Farming Practices Implemented

2024 and Cumulative since 2016



Advocacy

Fibershed's education and advocacy program connects people to the sources of their clothing, fostering awareness of how choices impact the environment and future. We shift demand toward ecologically responsible, locally produced goods by linking communities to healthy fiber landscapes, supporting climate-smart practices, and training educators.

Fibershed and its affiliates engage in policy discussions at all levels, targeting legislation in fashion and textiles to address waste, pollution, labor abuses, and inequitable impacts. By building public and institutional awareness, we drive momentum for change in regional textile systems.



REGIONS SERVED

*North America, Europe, Asia,
South America, Oceania*



POPULATIONS SERVED

*Underrepresented populations, Farmers,
Artists-Designers, Small businesses,
Women, Veterans, Rural communities*



Let's get to the
roots of our broken
and unhealthy →
textile system.



Shaping the Future: Key Legislative Milestones

SB707: First in the Nation Textile Extended Producer Responsibility Program Legislation

Fibershed contributed to the development and passage of California's Senate Bill 707 (SB 707, authored by Senator Josh Newman), collaborating with legislators, advocates, and industry stakeholders to establish the nation's first Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program for textiles. Now law, SB 707 mandates that textile producers create or join a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) to manage their products' entire lifecycle – from collection and recycling to final disposal. The bill's sponsor, the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC), led the development of SB 707 and valued Fibershed's input in shaping environmental and public health requirements and ensuring stakeholder involvement in the governance and decision-making of the Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO). By specifically addressing textile impacts, SB 707 promotes industry collaboration and a biocircular economy, setting California as a leader in textile policy and environmental stewardship.

SB 675: Prescribed Grazing for Wildfire Prevention

Fibershed also supported the development and passage of California's Senate Bill 675 (SB 675, authored by Senator Monique Limón), in partnership with organizations like the California Climate and Agriculture Network (CalCAN) and the Community Environmental Council. This collaborative effort, involving input from local fire professionals, grazing practitioners, and ecologists, led to Governor Gavin Newsom signing the bill into law on September 27, 2024. SB 675 establishes new guidance and eligibility for funding prescribed grazing through a California grant program for wildfire prevention and enhanced forest health, marking a key outcome in holistic land management and ecosystem resilience.

TOP Ruthie King, Headwaters Grazing, working in Mendocino County, California

BOTTOM LEFT Microplastic & Textile Waste Awareness Campaign (Fibershed Instagram post)

BOTTOM RIGHT California Senate Bill 707 addresses textile waste

Advocacy

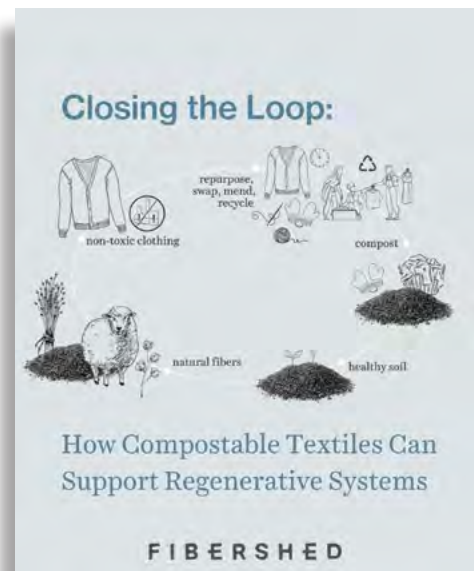
Strategic Communications

Fibershed's strategic communications blend advocacy, education, and consumer engagement to promote sustainability, advocate policy change, and encourage eco-friendly textile choices.

Policy Advocacy: Fibershed actively supports and helps shape policy initiatives like California's SB 707, where we advocated for more responsible statewide textile recovery to catalyze system change. Through social media, Fibershed raises awareness, mobilizes public support, and fosters community involvement in biocircular textile policies.

Educational Outreach: Fibershed shares digital content, including posts, articles, and interviews, to educate on to educate on soil-regenerating agricultural practices, Climate Beneficial™ fiber, and eco-friendly production. This approach positions Fibershed as a trusted resource, cultivating an informed audience that values biocircular fibers.

Consumer Behavior Change: Fibershed's "Microplastics" series highlights the systemic environmental impact of synthetic textiles on microplastic pollution, advocating for responsible fiber choices. Initiatives like the "Sustainable Closet Audit" and "Fibers Quiz" provide interactive ways for consumers to evaluate their wardrobe impact, supporting behavioral shifts toward eco-friendly consumption.



STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

21 original stories
published on fibershed.org

**fibershed.org/
subscribe**
was our most visited
website page in 2024

**8% more
website visitors**
converted to mailing list
members, than in 2023



←

Slow Fashion Caucus

The Congressional Slow Fashion Caucus was founded in June 2024 by Representative Chellie Pingree (D-Maine), along with Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-Wash.), Grace Meng (D-N.Y.), Julia Brownley (D-Calif.), Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-Calif.), Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.), Jan Schakowsky (D-Ill.), Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.), Kathy Castor (D-Fla.), Jared Huffman (D-Calif.), and Jill Tokuda (D-Hawaii). The group aims to mitigate the environmental and social impacts of the fast fashion industry by promoting responsible practices and policies. As an endorsing organization, Fibershed contributed talking points to Representative Pingree's office, underscoring its commitment to regional textile economies and advocacy for environmentally responsible and ethical fashion practices.



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Fibershed Affiliate Working Group

In April, Fibershed launched an Advocacy Working Group within the Affiliate Network, uniting over 20 organizers worldwide under Pennsylvania Fibershed's leadership. The group facilitated two key trainings to help affiliates advance their missions: **Advocacy 101** and **Strategic Communications**.

These efforts empower affiliates to advocate effectively, engage communities, and amplify the movement's goals.

TOP Representative Chellie Pingree (D-Maine) addressing supporters of the Slow Fashion Caucus at the U.S. Capital

**7.2% more
website traffic**

come from social media
than in 2023

**27% increase
in followers on
LinkedIn**

In 2024 we added 1,700
new followers—bringing us
to 6,224 in total

**12,855 views
and a 55% engagement rate**
on our most-viewed article
on LinkedIn:

*Closing the Loop: Can Compostable
Textiles Help Lead Us Into the Future?*

Education

The Fibershed Learning Center in Point Reyes Station, California, functions as an educational hub for biocircular textile practices, linking individuals to regional fiber and dye systems while promoting ecological literacy in the textile industry. Through its offerings, the center empowers people to make environmentally conscious choices and deepen connections to regional fiber systems, aligning with Fibershed's mission to build resilient local economies and advance Climate Beneficial™ textiles.



REGIONS SERVED

Primarily Northern California, with National and International visitors



POPULATIONS SERVED

Underrepresented populations, Farmers, Artists-Designers, Small businesses, Women, Veterans, Rural communities





Land Stewardship

The Fibershed Learning Center features a fiber and natural dye garden, an ethnobotanical library of native plants, and resources on agroforestry and traditional Indigenous practices, fostering a comprehensive understanding of land stewardship.

Fibershed's stewardship efforts also include riparian corridor and oak woodland restoration, managed grazing for pasture health, native bee pollinator hedgerows, and the cultivation of food, fiber, and dye gardens. These initiatives enhance biodiversity, promote healthy ecosystems, and support natural fiber and dye production.

In 2024, we harvested 30 pounds of flower-based dye material, and 700 pounds of indigo plant material. We processed more than 13 pounds of indigo pigment (by dry weight), and we composted 300 pounds of scrap textiles.

The County of Marin has granted the Fibershed Learning Center a generous grant to restore freshwater creek habitats and oak woodlands within the land area we lease and tend. The project includes restoring basketry collection sites for Coast Miwok basket makers and supporting the genesis of an ethnobotanical-based business that is focused on uplifting a young tribal entrepreneur in our community. In 2025, we established the groundwork for this restoration and business incubation project that included the hand-removal of one acre of Himalayan blackberry and poison hemlock.

TOP Shepherd Allison Reilly with the Black Mountain Ranch sheep flock, which Fibershed utilizes to support land restoration.

BOTTOM LEFT Natural dye with native plants demonstration, with black walnut hulls collected at the Fibershed Learning Center.

BOTTOM RIGHT Native plant garden at the Fibershed Learning Center

Education



Textile Composting Research Collaboration

Based on well-documented research, we know natural fiber textiles can successfully be composted. However, more research is needed to help identify how textiles can most effectively be composted in modern systems and to understand which types of textile treatments and additives are safe for composting. Fibershed partnered with UC Merced, Agromin, Cotton, Inc., and Bowles Farming Company to develop a two-year textile compost research proposal under the leadership of Dr. Rebecca Ryals at UC Merced. In 2024, funding for the research was secured, and the project is now underway. Publication of the completed research will support efforts to develop industry practices and policies.



Textile Composting Trials

At the Fibershed Learning Center, we began conducting textile composting trials in 2022 to document and showcase the decomposition process of natural fiber textiles. Our trials have included on-site demonstration piles containing up to 20% textile by volume, with informative signage for visitors. In 2024 we continued incorporating cotton textile waste into our larger, more slowly decomposing static compost piles, finding that the textiles decomposed completely within 3-6 months.

THIS PAGE Fibershed's composting trials with 100% natural undyed organic cotton cutting waste from Fibershed Member Harvest & Mill.

LEARNING CENTER

55
teachers trained
in 2024

4,829
visitors to the
Learning Center since it
opened in 2020

200+
visitors to the
Learning Center in 2024



←

Supporting Teacher Training and Youth Curricula

The Learning Center hosts teacher training workshops and partners with educators to create curricula that blend restoration education with material culture, equipping teachers with hands-on skills in natural fiber and dye practices. In collaboration with Shoreline Elementary, Fibershed held a three-month training for garden arts teachers on natural dyeing and eco-printing. For a third year, Fibershed also partnered with the School Garden Network to offer a botanical arts workshop for 30 educators, covering ink and pigment making, eco-printing, and creative uses of plants like goldenrod, elderberry, and black walnut for color-making and drawing.



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Fibershed Hands-On Workshops

The Learning Center offers workshops in traditional crafts like basket making, botanical printing, natural dye-making, and papermaking, providing participants with practical skills. In 2024, Fibershed hosted several workshops on natural fiber arts, often led by instructors sharing heritage-based knowledge. Notable workshops included: **Botanical Printing** with Mayumi Fujio, **Papermaking with Kozo** with Steph Rue, **Exploring the Northern California Fungal Fibershed** with Alissa Allen, **Weaving on a Mayan Backstrap Loom** with Sari Monroy Solís, and **Woven Willow Fence** with Charlie Kennard.

TOP School Garden Network, Botanical Arts training for 30 local educators

BOTTOM Coiled rush basket workshop with Charlie Kennard. Photo: Elissa Callen

In 2024, we hosted **21** partner organizations
at the Learning Center, including

School Garden Network
Grazing School of the West
Dominican University
West Marin Educators
National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT)
Seed2Shirt
Carbon Cycle Institute (CCI)

In 2024 we hosted

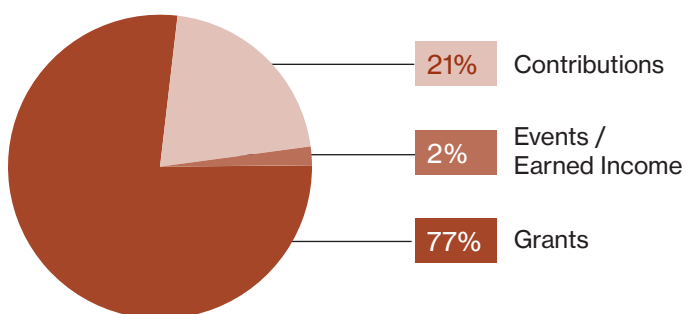
11 workshops
129 workshop students
11 scholarships provided

Financials

We are honored to do this work and we thank our funders for supporting our projects and programs. In 2024, we continued in our role of leading and administering state and federal grants to build healthier soils across the state, expand markets for Climate Beneficial™ fiber nationally, and address climate change with our agricultural landscapes.

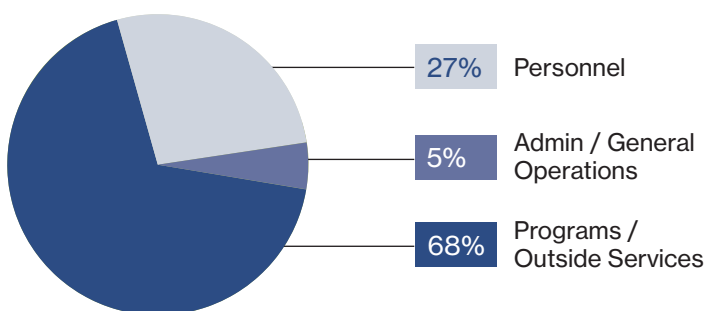
Revenue

Grants	\$2,251,124
Contributions	\$602,077
Event / Earned Income	\$37,141
Total Revenue	\$2,890,342



Expenses

Programs / Outside Services	\$1,483,069
Personnel	\$597,421
Admin / General Operations	\$118,677
Total Expenses	\$2,199,167



Assets + Liabilities

Current Assets	\$2,134,116
Total Assets	\$2,134,116

Liabilities	\$96,251
Equity	\$2,037,865
Total Liability + Equity	\$2,134,116z

Sponsorships & Scholarships

Fibershed is grateful to be able to support partner projects and emerging 501(c)3s on their journey to develop and nurture communities that, together, compose a tapestry of soil-to-skin practitioners. These organizations and projects are ones that we work with at the most core level of shared values. From administration, fundraising, reporting, event organizing, presentations, and coordination between and within our network, these partnerships are critical to the building the movement of land-and material culture care.



black fiber & textile network (bftn) is an initiative dedicated to fostering a thriving community of Black farmers, artisans, and textile professionals within the fiber and textile sectors. The network aligns with Fibershed's values of inclusivity, environmental stewardship, and support for regional fiber systems.

GRAZING SCHOOL OF THE WEST

Grazing School of the West (GSW) partners with Fibershed to support regenerative agriculture and fiber production through targeted education and training. Together, we work to equip graziers with the knowledge and skills to manage livestock in ways that enhance soil health, promote biodiversity, and produce high-quality fiber. Workshop attendees include range of people from rural / urban settings, because prescribed grazing operations can thrive in both environments; it is important that people in urban contexts understand that this work is for them as much as it is for more rurally-based populations.



Fibershed partners with select vocational training programs to offer equity pricing and scholarships to individuals based on financial need, driven by a commitment to social equity. By removing financial barriers, Fibershed fosters a more inclusive, skilled workforce in the fiber and textile industries, while advancing climate-beneficial practices and regional economic growth.

Fibershed funded scholarships and equity pricing for about half of the 73 students who attended sheep-related vocational training workshops with our partners in 2024.

Demographics

- All members are Black / of African descent
- 45 businesses / entrepreneurs
- Three emerging entrepreneurs and apprentices
- From 19 U.S. states plus Washington, D.C., and nine countries

Funding supported programming and projects such as:

- Creation of short documentary and video spotlights of six of our member businesses
- Three free community natural dye workshops held at urban gardens and farms in Brooklyn, New York
- Regional meet-up and cotton farmer visit in Georgia
- Member collaborations between natural dyers and apparel brand businesses
- Screening and crafting community events

Demographics

- Total of 18 attendees
- Five attendees were cisgender men and 11 were cisgender women; five attendees identified as queer / gender non-confirming.
- Seven attendees identified as people of the global majority, and 11 identified as white
- Attendee age ranged from 20–60 years old, with a majority of the participants (12) between 30–40 years old.
- Four of the 18 attendees had little to no experience in agriculture prior to the workshop.
- Five attendees live in urban / suburban contexts, and 13 attendees are based in rural / small towns.
- Seven attendees paid full tuition, eight attendees received a half scholarship, and three attendees received a quarter scholarship.

Scholarship funds provided by Fibershed to attendees of sheep shearing schools:

- \$10,000** – UC Hopland Research & Extension Center (HREC)
- \$1,800** – University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE)
- \$2,000** – Kaos Sheep Outfit
- \$1,500** – High Hog Farm

Thank You

Our donors make our work possible. Thank you for supporting our producers, the planet, and our growing regional fiber system. We could not do this work without you.

FOUNDATION GRANTS

11th Hour Project, a project of The Schmidt Family Foundation

Anonymous Donors

Community Foundation for San Benito County

Good Chaos

Donor Advised Fund: Ebor Charitable Trust DAF

East Bay Community Foundation

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Trudi Sorensen



When you donate to Fibershed, you support a vast network of people working together towards a fiber future that benefits the planet, the soil, the water, the air, and communities of humans and non-human kin.

From producers large and small implementing climate-smart farming practices at all stages of fiber production, to aspiring graziers determined to learn; from international Affiliates across the globe, to Fibershed staff and Producer Network members in Northern California; from advocates working at the policy level to workshop attendees at the Fibershed Learning Center: **these are the people and the work you support when you donate to Fibershed.**

fibershed.org/join



Envisioning an Ideal Fiber Future

We are grateful to the visionaries inspiring a fiber future where textiles harmonize with nature and community. Their reflections on biocircularity challenge us to honor the landscapes and people that sustain us, reminding us that building a just, regional fiber economy is both our duty and opportunity.



"The goal is to build a system where the company thrives, the community benefits, and resources are continually reinvested. That's the vision – everything connected from farm to finished product, with long-term sustainability and equity at the heart of it."

TAMEKA PEOPLES
CEO, SEED2SHIRT



"Overall, being part of this ideal fiber future is not just about textiles; it's about honoring our connections, celebrating diversity, and creating a sustainable and meaningful legacy for generations to come."

CHARITY MAY
FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL
OF SACRED FUTURES



"When we begin to see textiles as a cultural product tied to people and place, rather than 'things,' we will think more deliberately about how those things are made – and where, and by whom."

NATALIE CHANIN
FOUNDER, ALABAMA CHANIN



"A healthy textile system is a post-fossil fuel textile system, and is localized by design. This is crucial not only due to the environmental toll of fossil fuels, but also because it addresses both material composition and supply chain emissions. It is a system that is anchored in the bioeconomy."

GEORGE HARDING-ROLLS
GLOBAL POLICY RESEARCHER
AND ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNER

Thank you for supporting our work. By donating, you directly support our the Fibershed Movement. Visit fibershed.org/join to become a monthly donor or make a one-time contribution.



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